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SOME OBLIGATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF SCIENTISTS IN THE UPBUILDING OF PEACE¹

WE have been free from the turmoil of actual warfare for something over a year and it is high time we turn our faces with resolute courage toward the coming years with the determination that the world shall be a happier, saner, and safer one for humanity. The results of victory have probably not been all that we expected and certainly not all that many of us desired while in many respects the results have been entirely unforeseen. To scientists, I imagine, one of the most surprising outcomes of the war has been the sudden and I believe permanent enthronement of science in the activities of humanity. In the carrying on and the winning of the war, men of science played an unexpectedly important and indispensable part. The roll of honor among the sciences is large and includes certainly all of them represented here to-night. The men in these sciences were called from every quarter of the nation; and the promptness with which they answered the calls and the effectiveness with which they met the demands made upon them should be a source of pride and profound satisfaction to every one of us.

THE STANDING OF SCIENCE IN THE MINDS OF THE PEOPLE

As a result of their work the value of research and investigation to the welfare of the nation, whether in peace or in war, has taken hold on the minds of the people as never before; and the worth and usefulness of the scientist to humanity have received general recognition from the public to an extent long justified but hardly expected in our day and

¹ An address delivered at the installation of the new members of the Alpha Chapter of Sigma Xi at Cornell University, May 18, 1920.